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Mexico Lodges Formal Protest On Drug Law

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The Mexican Embassy lodged a formal protest with the State Department yesterday against the new antinarcotics law, saying it indicates an "unfriendly attitude toward Mexico."

In a statement, the embassy cited provisions "which are injurious to Mexico and which are based on the inaccurate judgments that Mexico has not observed its pledges of cooperation in the fight against drug trafficking."

"The Embassy of Mexico considers these provisions to indicate an unfriendly attitude toward Mexico and for some unexplicable reason to ignore actual conditions," it said.

"Upon instructions of its government, the Embassy of Mexico wishes to express its surprise over the fact that the aforementioned law includes provisions which directly concern Mexico and which as they stand are detrimental to Mexico's interest."

The State Department had no comment.

The measure was signed into law by President Reagan Monday.

It expresses the sense of the Congress that unless Mexico makes "substantial progress" toward resolving a number of drug enforcement issues, Reagan should consider warning against travel to Mexico, denying favorable tariff treatment to Mexican exports and withholding support in multilateral lending institutions for Mexican loans.

The embassy called those provisions "threats . . . clearly aimed at pressuring Mexico into solving a problem which has its origin in the growing internal consumption of various narcotics within the United States."